

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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FM US MISSION EC BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2800

C O N F I D E N T I A L EC BRUSSELS 0535

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (MONDALE, WALTER F.) EEC

SUBJECT: COMMISSION PREPARATIONS FOR VICE PRESIDENT-ELECT MONDALE'S
VISIT

1. OVER LUNCH JANUARY 19 WITH EC COMMISSIONER DAVIGNON, I WAS TOLD THAT COMMISSION WILL TAKE A "HIGH ROAD" APPROACH IN DISCUSSION WITH VICE PRESIDENT-ELECT DURING LATTER'S CALL JANUARY 24. KEY COMMISSIONERS HAVE GONE OVER WITH ROY JENKINS HIS PROPOSED TALKING POINTS FOR THE MEETING. DAVIGNON SAID THEY HAD REJECTED PROPOSALS TO RAISE SPECIFIC ISSUES IN CIRTICAL OR NARROWLY FOCUSSED WAY THAT SOMETIMES CHARACTERIZES STAFF APPROACHES. INSTEAD, HE ANTICIPATED THAT JENKINS WOULD STATE AS FACT THAT THE COMMUNITY ATTACHED IMPORTANCE TO GOOD RELATIONS WITH THE UNITED STATES AND THAT THE COMMISSION WAS PREPARED TO BE HELPFUL.

2. RE POSSIBLE SUMMIT DAVIGNON NOTED THAT THE COMMISSIION WAS IN FACT RESPONSIBLE FOR EUROEPLEAN TRADE AND AGRICULTURAL POLICY, AND THESE MATTERS WERE CLEARLY MATTEERS OF COMMUNITY COMPETENCE. ACCORDINGLY, I IF THEY WERE TO BE DISCUSSED AT THE SUMMIT THE COMMUNITY SHOULD BE REPRESENTED. THIS DID NOT MEAN THAT EACH OF THE NINE STATES WOULD HAVE TO BE THERE. IT WOULD BE CLEAR THAT THE COMMISSION PRESIDENT AND CALLAGHAN ACTING AS THE PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL COULD REPRESETN THE COMMUNITY.

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3. CONCERNING THE MTN, THE COMMUNITY WAS COMMITTED BUT THE NEW COMMISSION WOULD NEED TIME TO DEVELOP A PRECISE STRATEGY AND A SET OF PRIORITIES. THE COMMUNITY WAS DEVDLOPING IDEAS CONCERNING NORTH/SOUTH RRELATIONS AND WOULD WISH DETAILED DISCUSSIONS FAIRLY EARLY. HERE AND ELSEWHERE IF THE VIEWS PUT FORWARD BY THE AMERICAN ADMINISTRATION WERE CONVINCING, THE

COMMUNITY WOULD ADJUST. SIMILARLY IT WOULD EXPECT THAT WERE THE EC TO HAVE SOLID POSITIONS, THE US SHOULD ACCOMMODATE. ON ENERGY, JENKINS WOULD ATTACH IMPORTANCE TO OUR RESPECTIVE COMMITMENTS IN THE IEA BUT WOULD POINT TO THE FACT THAT PERFORMANCE TO DATE WAS UNSATISFACTORY. DAVIGNON SAID AS AN ASIDE THAT HE WAS COUNSELLING BRUNNER NOT TO PUSH ENERGY TOP THE HEAD OF THE US-EUROPEAN COMMUNITY AGENDA.HINTON

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